

Notes of a Meeting of the Events Liaison Group held on 22 August 2019 at 10.00 a.m. in the Tower Clock Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem to discuss the arrangements for VE Day May 2020

Present:- Cllrs Broomhall and Dodd
Mrs S Thornhill (Assistant Town Clerk)

1. Apologies – to receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Glover, Granger and Towers.

2. Minutes – to approve as a correct record the minutes of this group held on 13 June 2019.

Resolved:- that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2019 be approved as a correct record and these were duly signed.

3. To discuss the arrangements to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day

It was decided to hold a public meeting week commencing 16 September 2019 and to invite Wem Rural Parish Council to be part of the arrangements.

It was decided to follow the guidelines provided by SSAFA the Armed Forces Charity.

The following suggestions were made:-

Friday 8 May 2020

3 p.m - The Nations Toast – pubs to encourage customers to raise a glass at 3 p.m and take part in the nations toast to the heroes of WW2 (3p.m is the time Winston Churchill officially announced the end of WW2 from the Cabinet Office at 10 Downing Street). Contact The White Lion, The Castle, The Fox, The Old PO, The Dickin Arms and the Hawkstone Arms. It was mentioned that The Hawkstone Arms does not open during the day but to contact them anyway to see if they would like to take part.

3 p.m – A piper to play Battle's O'er on the Church Green.

7 p.m – Church bells to ring out for peace.

Saturday 9 May 2020

To hold a simple picnic (no alcohol) on the Millennium Green between 12 noon to 3 p.m. The Assistant Town Clerk will contact Phil Moyse regarding the use of the Millennium Green as a venue.

Cllr Dodd said she would speak with Wem Methodist Church re the use of the Church Hall if the weather was inclement, the provision of toilets and the supply of chairs if needed. It was also suggested contacting Wem ADOS re the use of their facilities.

To invite the Community Choir, The Jubilee Band and Tim Bamford to provide some music. Cllr Dodd said she would make enquiries of the Wem Methodist Church Choir to see if they would take part.

To provide entertainment/games for the children, e.g face painting, ice cream van.

Sunday 10 May 2020

Church Service to be held in the town.

A lone Bugler to play the Last Post and Reveille at the church service. The Assistant Town Clerk to contact Wem Jubilee Band.

A representative to read out the Tribute to the Millions.

Over the weekend – it was suggested that bunting be put up in the High Street. Flags be flown outside the Town Hall between 7 May and 11 May 2020. To publicise the event by way of posters and flyers, to provide details on the Council's facebook page and website and to advise the local press.

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Chairman